

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR
THE WAR DEPARTMENT, 1939

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR THE WAR
DEPARTMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1939

MARCH 4, 1939.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to
be printed

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, March 4, 1939.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress 10 supplemental estimates of appropriation for the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, totaling \$69,-738,287, all of which would remain available until June 30, 1940, and \$1,953,443 of which would remain available until expended. In addition, these estimates provide for the granting of contract authorizations aggregating \$46,801,000. These estimates are for the purpose of carrying out certain recommendations contained in my message to Congress of January 12, 1939, upon the subject of national defense.

The details of these supplemental estimates of appropriation, the necessity therefor, and the reasons for their transmission at this time are set forth in the letter of the Acting Director of the Bureau of the Budget, transmitted herewith, with whose comments and observations I concur.

Respectfully,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, February 27, 1939.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House.

SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration 10 supplemental estimates of appropriation for the War Department, for the

fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, totaling \$69,738,287, all of which would remain available until June 30, 1940, and \$1,953,443 of which would remain available until expended, as follows:

MILITARY ACTIVITIES

QUARTERMASTER CORPS

Clothing and equipage: For an additional amount for clothing and equipage for the Army, comprising the same objects specified under this heading in the Military Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939, and including the employment of persons and the procurement of supplies and services, printing and binding, and communication service, at the seat of government and elsewhere, fiscal year 1939, to remain available until June 30, 1940 (10 U. S. C. 72; 52 Stat. 649-650)-----

\$1,017,388

Army transportation: For an additional amount for Army transportation, comprising the same objects specified under this heading in the Military Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939, and including the employment of persons and the procurement of supplies and services, printing and binding, and communication service, at the seat of government and elsewhere, fiscal year 1939, to remain available until June 30, 1940, \$1,000,000, of which amount not in excess of \$130,000 may be utilized for the purchase or construction of boats and other vessels (10 U. S. C. 72; 52 Stat. 650-651)-----

1,000,000

SIGNAL CORPS

Signal Service of the Army: For an additional amount for Signal Service of the Army, comprising the same objects specified under this heading in the Military Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939, and including the employment of persons and the procurement of supplies and services, printing and binding, and communication service, at the seat of government and elsewhere, fiscal year 1939, to remain available until June 30, 1940 (10 U. S. C. 212; 52 Stat. 653-654)-----

2,571,250

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Medical and Hospital Department: For an additional amount for Medical and Hospital Department, Army, comprising the same objects specified under this heading in the Military Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939, and including the employment of persons and the procurement of supplies and services, printing and binding, and communication service, at the seat of Government and elsewhere, fiscal year 1939, to remain available until June 30, 1940 (10 U. S. C. 81; 24 U. S. C. 198; 52 Stat. 656)-----

295,000

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Engineer Service, Army: For an additional amount for Engineer Service, Army, comprising the same objects specified under this heading in the Military Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939, and including the employment of persons and the procurement of supplies and services, printing and binding, and communication service, at the seat of Government and elsewhere, fiscal year 1939, to remain available until June 30, 1940, \$2,900,000, and, in addition, the Chief of Engineers, when authorized by the Secretary of War, may enter into contracts prior to July 1, 1940, for the procurement of engineer equipment to an amount not in excess of \$1,000,000, and his action in so doing shall be deemed a contractual obligation of the Federal Government for the payment of costs thereof (52 Stat. 657)-----

2,900,000

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT

Ordnance service and supplies, Army: For an additional amount for ordnance service and supplies, Army, comprising the same objects specified under this heading in the Military Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939, and including the employment of persons and the procurement of supplies and services, printing and binding, tuition of officers of the Ordnance Department at educational institutions, and communication service, at the seat of government and elsewhere, fiscal year 1939, to remain available until June 30, 1940, \$55,366,362, and, in addition, the Chief of Ordnance, when authorized by the Secretary of War, may enter into contracts prior to July 1, 1940, for ordnance service and supplies, to an amount not in excess of \$44,000,000, and his action in so doing shall be deemed a contractual obligation of the Federal Government for the payment of the cost thereof: *Provided*, That the President may, with their consent, order Ordnance Reserve officers and Specialist Reserve officers assigned to the Ordnance Department, to active duty for such periods as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this appropriation, and the pay and allowances of such officers while so assigned shall be charged to this appropriation (10 U. S. C. 192; 50 U. S. C. 78; 52 Stat. 557-558) ----- \$55,366,362

CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE

Chemical Warfare Service, Army: For an additional amount for Chemical Warfare Service, Army, comprising the same objects specified under this heading in the Military Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939, and including the employment of persons and the procurement of supplies and services, printing and binding, and communication service, at the seat of Government and elsewhere, fiscal year 1939, to remain available until June 30, 1940, \$1,110,000, and, in addition, the Chief of Chemical Warfare Service, when authorized by the Secretary of War, may enter into contracts prior to July 1, 1940, for the procurement of chemical warfare equipment to an amount not in excess of \$740,000, and his action in so doing shall be deemed a contractual obligation of the Federal Government for the payment of costs thereof (10 U. S. C. 221-223; 52 Stat. 658) ----- 1,110,000

Total to be appropriated at this time ----- 64,260,000
Total of contract authorizations ----- 45,740,000

U. S. C. 221-223; 52 Stat. 658) ----- 1,110,000

In your message to Congress of January 12, 1939 (H. Doc. No. 105, 76th Cong., 1st sess.), upon the subject of national defense, you stated with respect to the Army:

* * * I suggest an appropriation of \$110,000,000 to provide "critical items" of equipment which would be needed immediately in time of emergency, and which cannot be obtained from any source within the time and quantity desired—material such as antiaircraft artillery, semiautomatic rifles, antitank guns, tanks, light and heavy artillery, ammunition and gas masks. Such purchases would go far to equip existing units of the Regular Army and the National Guard.

The purpose of the foregoing seven supplemental estimates of appropriation, providing for the appropriation at this time of a total of \$64,260,000 and for contract authorizations totaling \$45,740,000 is to carry out the above-quoted portion of your message to the Congress. These estimates will provide the War Department with all of the funds which it will require for the liquidation of obligations incurred thereunder and maturing up to and including June 30, 1940. In addition, they will permit the making of contracts to the extent of \$45,740,000, for which liquidating cash appropriations will not be required until the fiscal year 1941.

SEACOAST DEFENSES

For additional amounts for seacoast defenses, comprising the same objects specified under this heading in the Military Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1939, and including the employment of persons and the procurement of supplies and services, printing and binding, and communication service, at the seat of government and elsewhere, fiscal years 1939 and 1940, as follows:

Seacoast defenses: United States, \$3,295,631, of which \$1,222,738 shall remain available until expended (10 U. S. C. 271; 31 U. S. C. 583; 52 Stat. 659):

Seacoast defenses, insular departments: Insular departments, \$766,284, of which \$41,900 shall remain available until expended (10 U. S. C. 271; 31 U. S. C. 583; 52 Stat. 659);

Seacoast defenses, Panama Canal: Panama Canal, \$1,416,372, of which \$688,805 shall remain available until expended (10 U. S. C. 271; 31 U. S. C. 583; 52 Stat. 659);

In all, \$5,478,287, of which \$1,953,443 shall remain available until expended; and in addition, when authorized by the Secretary of War, contracts may be entered into prior to July 1, 1940, for the procurement of equipment for seacoast defenses, such action in each case to be deemed a contractual obligation of the Federal Government for the payment of the cost thereof, as follows:

United States, \$591,000;

Insular Departments, \$339,000;

Panama Canal, \$131,000;

In all, \$1,061,000.

In your message to Congress on national defense, hereinbefore mentioned, you suggested total appropriations for the Army of approximately \$477,000,000, to consist of \$300,000,000 for the Army Air Corps, \$110,000,000 for critical items of equipment for the Regular Army and National Guard, \$32,000,000 for educational orders for the Army, \$27,000,000 for strengthening Panama Canal Zone garrisons and providing adequate housing facilities therefor, and the balance "for improving and strengthening the seacoast defenses of Panama, Hawaii, and the continental United States, including the construction of a highway outside the limits of the Panama Canal Zone, important to the defense of the zone." In accordance with these allocations, the balance mentioned is \$8,000,000, and of this amount the foregoing three estimates for seacoast defenses provide for the appropriation at this time of \$5,478,287 and the granting of contract authorizations of \$1,061,000, a total of \$6,539,287. A supplemental estimate for construction of the Panama highway will be submitted for your consideration at a later date.

The 10 supplemental estimates of appropriation herewith submitted are to provide for carrying out certain recommendations contained in your message to Congress of January 12, 1939, upon the subject of national defense—a contingency which has arisen since the transmission of the Budgets for the fiscal years 1939 and 1940. I recommend that they be transmitted to Congress.

Very respectfully,

D. W. BELL,
Acting Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

